



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEMBERS OF EAST TEXAS METH RING INDICTED

(Tyler, TX) United States Attorney Matthew D. Orwig announced today that five East Texans have been indicted on federal drug charges in the Eastern District of Texas. Four of those individuals appeared in federal court today before United State Magistrate Judge Judith Guthrie.

A federal grand jury returned an indictment on September 13, 2006, charging **ANTONIO GARCIA, Jr.**, 24 of Terrell, **THOMAS LYNN EDWARDS**, 55, **STACY DEAN MOSELEY**, 39, **KARA LEANN WELCH**, 23, and **CONNIE GOSHORN**, 41, all of Bullard, with various counts of distribution of methamphetamine and firearms violations.

U.S. Attorney Orwig vowed to continue to aggressively prosecute drug offenses in East Texas, "Methamphetamine is a deadly drug that is destroying lives. We will do whatever it takes to disrupt the flow of poison in our communities."

According to the indictment, all five defendants are charged with conspiracy to distribute more than 500 grams of methamphetamine and face up to life in prison if convicted. Moseley and Welch are also charged with maintaining a place for the distribution of methamphetamine and each face up to twenty years in federal prison, if convicted of that charge. Moseley is

also charged with two counts of possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime and faces consecutive sentences of up to five years in prison for the first count and 25 years for the second count, if convicted. Edwards also faces a charge of possession of a firearm and possession of marijuana.

Edwards, Moseley, and Welch were in federal court today for initial appearances. Goshorn is scheduled to appear on September 26. All remain in custody. Garcia appeared today for a Detention Hearing and Arraignment, and was ordered detained after a hearing.

The federal government is also seeking forfeiture of a residence in Kaufman County, a residence and land in Cherokee County, a pick-up truck, a motorcycle, \$80,000 in U.S. currency and twenty firearms.

It is important to note that an indictment should not be considered as evidence of guilt and that all persons charged with a crime are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

The case is being investigated by the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and explosives, and the Texas Department of Public Safety and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Mary Ann Cozby.

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